

Kazakhstan. This commitment to a continued cooperation across multiple platforms was cemented in the 2018 document, "United States and Kazakhstan: An Enhanced Strategic Partnership for the 21st Century," which outlines the goals and priorities of the bilateral agenda and sets a long-term vision to support future cooperation.

Ambassador Kazykhanov holds a bachelor's degree in Oriental Studies from Saint Petersburg State University and a Ph.D. in History from Al-Farabi Kazakh National University. He has authored many articles focused on Kazakhstan's foreign policy, economic diplomacy, and multilateralism, among other topics. He speaks Russian, English and Arabic, and has received numerous awards and recognitions for his years of service.

Both he and his wife, Danara, who have two children, will be greatly missed by the Washington diplomatic corps and by all who know them in Washington, D.C. Along with my fellow Caucus co-chairs, we wish them both the greatest success and happiness as they return to Nur-Sultan. And as the Ambassador prepares for his new role as a senior advisor to the President, we hope that he will continue to emphasize the importance of the bilateral relationship between the United States and Kazakhstan.

#### CONGRATULATING THE RED RAIDERS BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

#### HON. SCOTT FITZGERALD

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 18, 2021*

Mr. FITZGERALD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Wauwatosa East High School boys' basketball team for winning the Division 1 state championship earlier this month.

What started as a nail biter with the Red Raiders trailing the Papermakers 27–26 at the half, ended with a triumphant turnaround by the Wauwatosa East team on their way to a 62–44 victory. The Red Raiders shot an impressive 71 percent from the floor in the second half and finished at 55 percent for the game. This marks the Red Raiders fourth state championship win in the program's 17th tournament appearance and their first appearance in the tournament since 2008.

I applaud Coach Arndorfer and the entire team for a terrific season. This team overcame many obstacles in the face of the COVID–19 pandemic, but they persevered and brought home the win. Congratulations to the Red Raiders, or as they call themselves, the "band of brothers." This achievement is well-deserved.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. FRED KELLER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 18, 2021*

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, I was unable to attend a vote called on March 17, 2021. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 89.

#### OBITUARY: ARTHUR F. WALSH

#### HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 18, 2021*

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, Arthur "Art" Francis Walsh passed away early in the morning of February 24, 2021 in Salisbury, MD. Art was a good man, a loving husband, a loyal father, who loved his family and served his country and community. He had a great career. He enjoyed life and a good joke. He made people laugh; enjoyed golf, children, and pets; and had friendships that lasted his entire life. He loved and was loved. His final days were difficult, but he slipped into the arms of God peacefully in his sleep and we are thankful.

Art was born on April 13, 1942, to Marion Veronica Walsh (nee Kiernan), a mother of six, and Howard John Walsh Sr., a Deputy Sheriff and Detective with the New York Police Department, in the South Bronx neighborhood of New York, NY.

He often shared memories of his carefree days of his youth playing stickball and rambling around the neighborhood with his siblings and hundreds of other Irish Catholics kids, walking home for lunch from P.S. 35, watching baseball at nearby Yankee Stadium and vexing the clergy of St. Angela's School and Powell Memorial Academy.

Art enlisted in the Marine Corps, trained at Paris Island, SC, then served in the Marine barracks at 8th and I Streets in Washington, DC, where he was meritoriously promoted to the rank of Lance Corporal and was selected for the Marching Twenty-Four unit, performing silent precision exhibition drills. As a member of the Marine Corps Honor Guard, Art served presidential support duty for President John F. Kennedy.

Art then completed six years in the Marine Reserves and joined the New York Telephone Company, where he built a 30-year career, rising from an installer of rotary phones to a regional manager overseeing fiber optic cable and high-speed internet.

With his first wife, Barbara, Art enjoyed many nights bowling, gathering with friends and having fun throughout McLean Avenue in Yonkers and all over Manhattan. Together, they moved to the mountains of Ringwood, NJ. He participated in that community as a member of the Knights of Columbus, local Republican politics, the Ringwood Board of Health and St. Catherine's Parish. His home and pool offered summers away from the city for his sister-in-law Georgann, nieces Stephanie and Donna and nearly nephew Eddie. He loved people and wanted to help improve their quality of life. Art's large family circle included step-nieces, ex-sister-in-laws, children's friends, and friends held as family.

Art was a wonderful father to Brian and Andrea and dearly loved sister-in-law Georgann. He played, explored the woods and laughed. He hosted swim lessons, went to little league games and daddy-daughter dances. He made it possible for each, plus six step-grandchildren, to graduate college, pursue successful careers and begin families of their own. He taught us to help others, to apply our capable hands to any problem we faced, to work hard, listen, look others in the eye and give respect to all the people you encounter in this world.

Art was blessed to find great happiness in retirement with his wife Carole Benner Walsh, moving to the Eastern Shore of MD, where they enjoyed 20 years of fun. Together, Art and Carole traveled, played golf and celebrated with friends and enjoyed the beaches of Maryland, their dog Charlie, and life as grandparents to their expanded family.

Many thanks go to the care providers at Lakeside at Mallard Landing for their kindness, care and loyalty throughout the last two difficult years.

So, raise a glass, say a prayer and give thanks to a good man, a Marine, a son, a brother, a father, a husband, a grandfather, a friend . . . to a life well lived . . . and, to quote Art, "keep smilin".

Art is survived by his wife Carole Benner Walsh; children Brian O. Walsh (and Natasha) and Andrea Walsh Silva (and Nicholas); his sister-in-law Georgann Russo, step-children Jeffrey D. Benner (and Rochelle) and Cheryl Oursler (and George), and his siblings Howard Jr., Virginia, and Maureen Walsh and was predeceased by siblings Patrick and Loraine. Numerous multigenerational nieces and nephews; and his four grandchildren and six step-grandchildren that brought him great joy will sadly miss him.

#### REMEMBERING RAYMOND J. KAPPER

#### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 18, 2021*

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Raymond J. Kapper, who passed away at his Florida home on March 14, 2021 at the age of 84.

Ray Kapper dedicated his professional career to serving his community. Whether serving the citizens of the City of Akron as an elected official or young men and women as a coach and administrator, he put the greater good above his own aspirations.

He began his professional career as the athletic director for the Catholic Youth Organization and as head football coach at St. Mary's High School before moving on to the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company where he served as employee activities director. Mr. Kapper was elected to serve the City of Akron first as a ward councilman and then as councilman at-large. He ultimately was elected by his peers to serve as the president of the council.

In 1984, Ray was appointed to serve as service director. In that position he oversaw the City of Akron's Engineering Bureau, the Public Works Bureau, the Sewer Bureau, and the Water Bureau. Mr. Kapper retired from the City of Akron in 1992.

In retirement, Ray continued to work in the community and support the causes that were most important to him. He was especially proud of his work with The First Tee of Akron, a youth mentoring program that provides educational programs that build character and instill life-enhancing values through the game of golf. He most enjoyed time spent with family and friends and cheering on his beloved New York Yankees.

Mr. Kapper is survived by his loving and devoted wife of 63 years, Barbara; his children,

David (Jennifer) Kapper, Deborah (Kelly) Dodson, Jon (Nancy) Kapper, and Christopher (Collen) Kapper; grandchildren, Abbie, Alex, Charlie, Hannah, Ben, Frances, Nicole, and Kevin; great grandchild Violet; and brothers Dick, Tom, and Glenn. He was preceded in death by his parents Raymond and Marcine, and his grandson, Andrew.

I cannot thank Ray enough for his dedicated service to the City of Akron and Summit County. It is a great honor to represent the people of Akron in this chamber, and Mr. Kapper deeply exemplified the spirit of the city. My deepest condolences go out to his family and to all whose lives were touched by Ray.

## REMOVING THE DEADLINE FOR THE RATIFICATION OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 17, 2021*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. I rise in support of equality and the principle that our Constitution was designed, not to shore up the dominance of the historically powerful, but to ensure the rights of all and to foster a society in which each of us is free to shape our future based on our abilities. The resolution today seeks to remove the deadline Congress put in place for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. While ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment is imperative to enshrine equal rights for women, I do not believe it is necessary to strike the deadline for ratification. However, by voting on this legislation, we may imply that it is necessary for Congress to lift a self-imposed deadline in order for the ratification to be effective. I do not prescribe to this view.

Congressional authority to propose Amendments to the Constitution and the mode of ratification is outlined in Article V of the Constitution. Article V requires two-thirds of the House and Senate to propose an amendment. Congress can choose ratification through three-fourths of the state legislatures or state ratifying conventions. Once the amendment is proposed to the states, there is no Constitutionally imposed time limit on the ratification process. Article V of the Constitution is silent with regard to when a state must consider and ratify an amendment. In fact, the ratification process for the 27th Amendment took more than two hundred years.

Historically, Congress has ratified amendments without specific time limitations. The first amendment to contain a time limit was the 18th Amendment, which established the prohibition of alcohol. The text of the 18th, 20th, 21st, and 22nd Amendments each contained language limiting the time frame for ratification. In contrast, the text of the Equal Rights Amendment ratified by the states does not contain a time limit. It is the proposing clause sent to the states for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment which contains a seven-year time limitation. Notwithstanding a lower district court ruling to the contrary, the language of a proposing clause is not legally binding. The ratification process of the Equal Rights Amendment was properly before the states and was reasonable and sufficiently

contemporaneous. Therefore, having been ratified by Virginia and a sufficient number of other states pursuant to Article V, the ERA, in my judgement, has become part of the Constitution.

This resolution is unlikely to add to the argument that the ERA has been ratified, and, because it implies that the deadline needs to be removed, it may strengthen arguments against because if the deadline is binding, then passage of this resolution in the House, without passage in the Senate, certainly does not cure that defect. And even with Senate concurrence, the effect of the resolution on state ratifications between the deadline and the removal of the deadline is unclear. So the passage of the resolution in the House and Senate will at best add confusion to the debate and at worst will strengthen arguments against the conclusion that the ERA has been ratified. Nevertheless, forced with a vote, it makes more sense to vote in favor than to oppose the resolution.

Regardless of the outcome of this resolution on the ERA itself, the fight for equality must continue. Women still face hurdles in the pathways to success. On average, women still earn less than men for the same job functions. Pregnant women often lack basic protections and reasonable accommodation in the workplace. Perhaps most concerning of all, violence against women is still widespread and undermines the educational and social potential of women and young children in this country.

I am proud to have worked with my Democratic colleagues in the House to pass legislation to remedy these inequalities. The House recently passed the Protect the Right to Organize Act (H.R. 842) which protects workers who are trying to form a union. While in most of America, women earn less than men, women and men working under a union contract receive equal pay for equal work. We have worked to fill the gaps in the patchwork of existing laws governing how and when workers take time off to care for themselves and their families. Expanding the Family and Medical Leave Act to cover more working parents and low wage workers who are currently excluded from leave policies is a top priority.

There are other initiatives being considered to address inequities. Nearly two thirds of minimum wage workers in the United States are women. The Raise the Wage Act (H.R. 603) will raise the income levels of the most economically insecure households and would be a step in the right direction towards pay equity. The Pregnant Worker's Fairness Act (H.R. 1065) is important legislation that will provide reasonable accommodations to pregnant women in the workforce. The Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (H.R. 1620) which expands protections and provides critical funding for victim services, law enforcement training, and data collection, is now pending in Congress.

However, even if all this legislation were to become law, it would not be the same as amending the Constitution to guarantee women equal rights. Discrimination in the workplace, violence in the home, and institutional barriers require systemic legal and cultural change. Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment provides an additional legal tool for combatting discrimination on the basis of sex.

We will continue the fight for equality and work towards a more inclusive and equitable society.

**HERMAN ROBERTS—BLACK BUSINESSMAN, CIVIC LEADER, CHICAGO ICON**

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 18, 2021*

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of Chicago's brightest lights who recently passed away at the age of 97, Mr. Herman Roberts. The Chicago Sun-Times wrote that Herman Roberts came to Chicago with nothing during the "Great Migration and ended up a tycoon". At one time or another he owned 35 taxis, eight motels, a nightclub, which swung with some of the world's greatest stars, a bowling alley, a skating rink, and oil wells on a 2000-acre ranch in Oklahoma. Mr. Roberts grew up as one of six children in Beggs, Oklahoma, around his age of about 12 his family moved to Chicago where he went to Burke Elementary and Englewood High School on the southside of the city. After high school he went into the taxicab business and built a fleet in the Black Community when and where white owned cabs usually would not transport Black patrons. In the early 1950's he opened his first lounge, the Lucky Spot and a few years later The Roberts Show Lounge in a garage building where he had once housed his taxicabs. Mr. Roberts was a genius at booking and showmanship. Stars like Nina Simone, Dinah Washington, Sarah Vaughan, Sammy Davis Jr., Jackie Wilson, Sam Cooke, Red Foxx, Moms Mabley, Dick Gregory and others were regular features. In 1960, he built his first motel on 63rd Street, then six more. In 1974, he installed a removable stage in the parking lot and brought in stars like Count Basie, Billy Eckstine, Ramsey Lewis, Della Reese and Nipsey Russell to name a few. Mr. Roberts did not only spend time looking after his business in Chicago; but also spent time at the ranch in Oklahoma. At its peak his ranch had several oil wells, 100 horses, pigs, French breed of cattle and peacocks. In addition to everything else that Mr. Roberts was and did, the Roberts Motel 500 Room was a major launching pad for the official kick off of The Harold Washington Campaign for Mayor which changed Chicago Politics forever. I say congratulations to Mr. Herman Roberts on all his outstanding achievements and thanks to his children and grandchildren for keeping his legacy and spirit alive, especially to his daughter Sharla Roberts, Director of Procurement Diversity at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN KATKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 18, 2021*

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I missed the vote on Roll Call No. 84 on March 17, 2021. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 84.